

Evaluation of alternatives

Congressional Briefing November 25, 2015 Region 10



### Overview

- NRRB/CSTAG Meeting Overview
- · Highlights from the Remedial Investigation
- · Highlights from the Feasibility Study
- · Option Presented to NRRB/CSTAG
- · Focused Request to NRRB/CSTAG for input
- · Summary of Comments from State and Tribes
- · Decision Tree
- Cost Estimates
- Allocation
- · Public Process and Schedule

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## NRRB/CSTAG Meeting Overview

- NRRB and CSTAG received comments from:
  - the State of Oregon
  - the Lower Willamette Group
  - the Community Advisory Group
  - Yakama, Grand Ronde, Siletz, Warm Springs, Umatilla, Nez Perce Tribes
- EPA Presentation
  - Summary of the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
  - Overview and rationale of <del>Preliminary alternatives, preliminary preferred alternative and the recommended option</del>
- Questions on Approach from the Boards
- · State Presentation
- Tribal Presentations

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### Remedial Investigation Highlights

- · Multiple contaminants impact Portland Harbor
- Most significant and pervasive contaminants are:
  - PCBs
  - PAHs
- DDT, DDE and DDD
- · Pure product located in the river in multiple places
- Greatest risk to people who consume resident fish and shellfish from the site, although there are risks to people and wildlife from direct contact with sediment.

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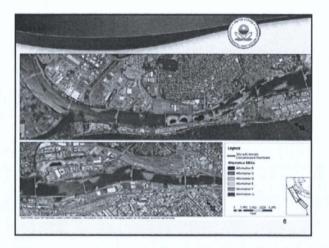
- · Objectives of the Cleanup:
  - Protect people and wildlife from direct contact with sediment
  - Protect people and wildlife from eating contaminated fish
  - Reduce the concentrations of contaminants in sediment and fish tissue
  - Protect people and wildlife from contaminated surface water and reduce contaminated groundwater migration
- Excavation and treatment of Principal Threat Waste that cannot be reliably contained in the river
- · Cleanup Technologies:
  - Capping, Dredging/Excavation, Enhanced Monitored Natural Recovery, Monitored Natural Recovery

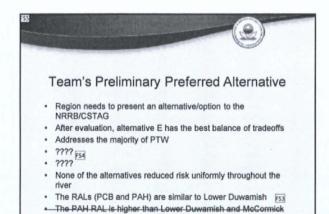
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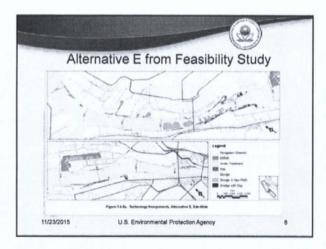
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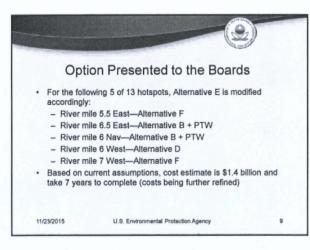
### Slide 7

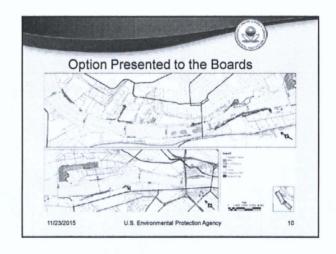
Why are we using McCormick and Baxter, since there were no RALs for sediment, only soil. Fish FS3 exposure was not a pathway for developing sediment cleanup levels.

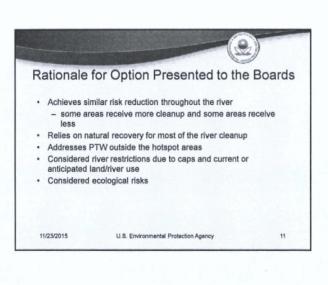
Fonseca, Silvina, 11/22/2015

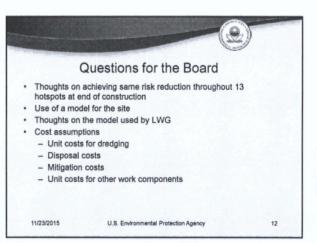
Fonseca, Silvina, 11/22/2015 FS4

Need a few more items to support E. Fonseca, Silvina, 11/22/2015 FS5











### Summary of State and Tribal Comments

#### Oregon

- · Concerned about schedule—believe it's time to make a decision
- Believe their source control work will enable EPA cleanup to move forward
- Looking for opportunities to reduce costs
- Want less restrictions in the river/less reliance on fish advisories
  Tribes:
- Want a remedy that achieves cleanup goals at the end of construction—suggest an alternative that goes beyond the most aggressive option—Alternative G+.
- · Yakama care deeply about contaminant impacts to the Columbia.

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# Decision Tree Analysis

- Decision tree decisions based on several criteria, such as:
  - Location in the river: nearshore, intermediate zone or navigation channel?
  - Do concentrations exceed the RALs?
  - Is it PTW and outside of the hotspot areas? Can it be reliably contained?
  - Depth of contamination?
- Decision tree decisions will be based on design data enabling current conditions to dictate cleanup

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### **Decision Tree Analysis**

- Based on the decision tree, the sediment is either capped, dredged, treated in place or left to recover.
- Capping may include armoring or a reactive layer depending on the physical conditions of the area.
- Depending on depth of contamination, dredging may only accommodate a cap or remove contamination

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#### Costs

- When this site's costs are compared to other large sediment site costs, these costs appear overestimated.
- · Asked the NRRB/CSTAG to look at our costs
- The LWG has asked that costs be broken down by Sediment Decision Unit for their allocation process.
- EPA is working with the LWG in refining and making our cost estimates more clear.

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### Allocation

- Currently, there are about 80 (?) parties participating in an independent allocation process
- · EPA is not part of the allocation process
- · EPA is very interested in the success of an allocation process.

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### **Public/Decision Process**

- Pre-Proposed Plan Community Engagement

  Winter 2015-March 2018—Highlights

  Portland Harbor/Superfund 101 Community Sessions

  Community Café network community members around values, considerations of framing values to develop comments for PP

  Technology talks series of discussions on technologies evaluated in FS to reduce risk from contaminated sediment (presentation and narrated powerpoint)

  CAG meetings (Ongoing monthly)

  Discussion of health risk and Portland Harbor with most vulnerable youth and who may subsistence fish from the river.

  Meetings with PHCC to discuss updates, grants and EJ expectations.

  Quarterly information session with Oregon Tradeswomen students seeking to participate in the Superfund jobs readiness program

  Spring 2016—Proposed Plan and 60-day public comment period

  December 2016—Record of Decision

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